THE MESSENGER
OF THE OAKLAND STAKE OF ZION

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DEATH

News of the death of President George S. Romney of the Northern States mission, came as a distinct shock to his many friends and associates, both in and out of the Northern States mission. A heart attack brought sudden death at 7:30 a. m. on December 19, at Rockford, Illinois where he had gone from his headquarters in Chicago to organize a branch. The body of President Romney was accompanied to Salt Lake City by Mrs. Romney and other members of the family and the funeral services were held at the assembly hall, Sunday, December 22 under the direction of the general authorities of the Church.

President Romney was born in St. George, Utah, November 12, 1874, a son of Miles Park and Hannah Hood Hill Romney. He moved with his family to St. Johns, Arizona, in 1880, where they lived for five years, before moving into the Mormon Colonies in Old Mexico. He lived then in Colonia Juarez, Chilhauhau, Mexico for 25 years, when he and his family left with the other refugees who fled from the rebel army of Gen. Salazar. He graduated from the University of Utah in 1917 and soon after became principal of Ricks College in Idaho, serving for 13 years. In 1922 he graduated from Stanford University with an M. A. Degree. While pursuing his education in Chicago, he was set apart as president of the Northern States mission in July, 1931. He was an active figure in conducting the Church exhibit at the World's Fair in Chicago. President Romney has held many church positions and his death leaves a void difficult to fill.

HIGH COUNCIL

John J. Kest, member of the Stake High Council, his wife, Katherine, and children, J. Robert, Naomi, Marjorie F. Norma F., and Nellie May are moving to Watsonville. Brother Kest was bishop of the Martinez Ward for a number of years. This family leaves a fine record here and will be a pillar of strength to the church in their new home.

MESSAGE

The Stake presidency extends its best wishes for 1936 to all of the Latter-day Saints in the Oakland and San Francisco stakes. May ALL have health; may the young be permitted to continue their educational work, that they may the more successfully cope with life; may the bread-winners find employment; and may the old find peace in the evening of their life.

W. Aird MacDonald
J. Edward Johnson
Eugene Hilton
Eva Pinkerton

ISABELLE BANNING

REED CHASE

NEW ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Messenger takes this opportunity to introduce Isabelle Banning, a new member of the editorial staff to the members of the Oakland Stake. She will be responsible for some of the feature articles that will appear in this paper hereafter.

Isabelle came to California in 1924, from Salt Lake City, Utah. She attended the University of California and graduated with exceptionally high honors in December, 1933. Since that time she has taught school in Idaho and has completed a business course at the Dickinson Secretarial School.

Her assistance will certainly enable the staff to more fully please the most important part of The Messenger, the readers.

BUSINESS MANAGER

Reed H. Chase, The Messenger's singing business manager needs an introduction to very few of the stake members. He has held several prominent positions in the Oakland Stake and is now the president of the Mormon Male Chorus, the live and talented group of singers whom we have heard on the radio and in public many times.

Reed moved into the stake five years ago, coming from Long Beach, California. He is now in charge of the stationery department in the Shell Oil Co. in San Francisco. He is well-stocked in business experience and, consequently, is a valuable asset to the staff as the continued existence of The Messenger depends directly upon him.

SUCCESS

Two wards, Alameda and Dimond, have gone over the top in the Improvement Era drive for subscriptions. Bishop Lauper attributes Dimond's success to the efficient work of Tom Ferguson and Aurteuse Cherrington.

Bishop Crandall personally saw that the Alameda Ward promptly subscribed its quota and better. Congratulations to these wards! Let's see if the other wards can do as well!

GENEALOGY

The Oakland Stake genealogical committee was recently reorganized under the priesthood plan, the same as used the past year on the Stake Sunday School board.

One member of the presidency of each of the high priests, seventies and an Elder's quorum compose the presidency of the genealogical committee.

The Stake genealogical representative being a member of the High Priests presidency, has placed the responsibility for the success of the genealogical work definitely in the hands of the High Priests Quorum. As all Stake authorities and bishoprics are members of this quorum, the support given, both directly and indirectly, and the growth of genealogical work should be tremendous.

This kind of an organization should have a wholesome effect on, not only the High Priests quorum, but all of the quorums of the Priesthood, in that it provides a greater field of activity and a better opportunity for members of the Priesthood to study and learn some of the deeper doctrines of the Church through the genealogical lessons. These lessons have a direct bearing upon the duties and obligations a man assumes when he becomes a member of the Priesthood.

When we receive the Priesthood we do so with the understanding that it will be used for the benefit of others. This is an obligation we take upon ourselves. In fact Priesthood blesses us in two ways: First, it is the means through which exaltation comes to those who hold it; second, it is to be used in behalf of others that they also may be blessed. No man has been given the Priesthood as an ornament only. He is expected to use it in behalf of the salvation of others.

Not only is he expected, but he is commanded to do so, for the Lord said, after pointing out the various offices in the Priesthood and the duties assigned to each:

"Wherefore, now let every man learn his duty, and to act in the office in which he is appointed, in all diligence.

He that is slothful shall not be counted worthy to stand, and he that learns not his duty and shows himself not approved shall not be counted worthy to stand. Even so, Amen."—D. C. 107:99-100.

This means that the man who accepts the Priesthood also accepts the responsibilities which go with it. He promises that he will give service and make himself approved.

—Eugene B. Jacobs.

ACHIEVEMENT

Mrs. Carl Christensen, formerly a member of the Berkeley Ward, now residing in New York City, won the prize for the best poem in the last Christmas News, a yearly feature of The Deseret News.

THE MESSENGER

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple."—Mal. 3:1

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RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY

One of the most fundamental principles of successful government, church or civil, is respect for authority. It is absolutely necessary in any plan in which people hope to live together in peace and harmony. In civil government constituted authority is empowered to enforce respect for its rights and decrees. This is necessary for the good of society. Without it chaos would prevail.

Latter-day Saints are taught to have respect for civil authorities. The Twelfth Article of Faith commits us definitely to such an attitude. "We believe in being subject to Kings, Presidents, Rulers, and Magistrates, in obeying, honoring and sustaining the law."

In Church Government respect for authority is no less important and necessary. In our Church this is especially true. The authority of this Church is God's authority. The fact that it has been delegated to man in no way lessens the respect due to it. Respect cannot be enforced. It can only be established and maintained through education, understanding, and love of the work of the Lord. Respect for authorities of the Church as represented by its leaders—General, Stake, Ward, and Mission — has been one of the greatest factors in its development and progress. If it were not forthcoming, disorder, lack of unity, and disintegration would result.

Respect for authority is an indication of loyalty, of acceptance, of faith and of obedience, all necessary attributes of good citizenship and consistent membership in any government or church. Latter-day Saints should be outstanding in showing examples of respect for and loyalty to authority.

Our children should be taught in the home and in our organizations respect for all authority and particularly for the authority of our Father in Heaven as represented by those who are called to places of responsibility in His Church.

Ward Teachers' Topic for February

ASSIGNMENTS

High Council and Missionary appointments for Sunday, Jan. 19, 1936.

ALAMEDA—W. T. Hicken and P. W. Jackson
BERKELEY—I. B. Ball and E. Humphrey
DIMOND—C. C. Carr and J. White
ELMHURST—J. Soelburg and J. McDonald
HAYWARD—A. D. Ericksen and R. Cox
MARTINEZ—D. J. Aliphin and B. Cox
OAKLAND—C. M. Dewsnip and R. Paine
PITTSBURG—J. J. Kest and O. Fontana
RICHMOND—G. Ellis and E. Carr
VALLEJO—O. L. Stone and E. J. Pertington

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE, JAN. 25-26

COLLEGE MISSIONARIES

Advanced learning has been said to breed distrust in the belief in a Supreme Being. This school of thought reasons that religious institutions, throughout all ages, have been more or less static institutions and have not progressed with civilization, either in thought, or in practice. It further speculates that if progressive science is to advance rapidly, it must not ally itself with such a static element as religion.

We find many sons and daughters of members of the Mormon Church concurring with this school of thought. We meet others who say that they haven't time for religion while they are in college. They declare that college is all absorbing in itself. Too often, students become so absorbed in the philosophy of Pareto or Spenglar that they lose their regard for the teachings of Joseph Smith.

A great deal of missionary work is needed in the colleges and universities today. The Mormon prophet proclaimed "the Glory of God is Intelligence." As a church we teach that "as man is, God once was; as God is, man may become." This is eternal progression. Our young people are entering colleges and universities in all parts of the world today, attempting to glean from these specialized institutions that which mankind has always been diligently seeking, knowledge. Too often this urge for learning warps their faith in God. Why is this so often the case? Simply because college students fail to find spiritual leaders who evince interest in the problems of youth. Therefore, it appears that one of the most promising fields of missionary work lies in the university or college life of today.

The challenge to leadership rings clear and strong. Many a valuable future leader has been lost to the Church because some professor has instilled a spark of disbelief in God in the student's mind. That spark was fanned into a flaming fire by others whose idea of religious philosophy has been dwarfed by inaction. The right type of missionary endeavor, tactfully engineered, might reawaken the smoldering fires of faith in God. We have missionaries in all countries of the earth, each rendering a commendable service. Why not have a college missionary group?

Eva Pinkerton

If we would have the strength of the Puritan we must hold to the practices of the Puritan; we must have in our hearts a hatred for that which is evil. The way that leads to strength and power has ever been and will always be straight, stony and stormy. It will ever remain true that the paths that are easy and flowery often lead to weakness and misery. Resisting temptation strengthens the mind; it strengthens the soul.

Elder Richard R. Lyman

DEATH

The funeral for Chrissie Amelia Riding, wife of George K. Riding of the Elmhurst Ward, residing at 2037 84th avenue, Oakland, was held in the Elmhurst chapel, Saturday, January 4, 1936, under the direction of Bishop Horace J. McFarlane. Sister Riding died January 2, of heart failure and a complication of other ailments. She leaves five children, Junior, George E., Ida M., Wallace, and Nellie C.

Luke and Christiana Syphus, early pioneers of Nevada, were her parents. She was born March 17, 1868, at Panaca, Lincoln county, Nevada, consequently knowing many of the hardships of pioneer life. May 6, 1890, she married George K. Riding of St. George, Utah and they settled in Panaca where the first four of their children were born. At this time, Brother Riding was called into the mission field, leaving her to support herself and her children. She was even able to send funds to her missionary husband. When Brother Riding returned, they moved fourteen miles south to Caliente. Here, they were directly instrumental in organizing a Sunday School, in which she was a teacher. Meetings were held in their own home until the handful of members were able to build themselves a chapel. In 1923, the Riding family moved to California, first residing in Riverside and finally, in Elmhurst. Sister Riding was very active on the Genealogical committee in the ward.

Her life will be an example to all for she has been a true Latter-day Saint, faithfully living the doctrines of the Church.

SCOUTS

Irving P. "Bing" Beesley, Field Executive of the Oakland council of the Boy Scouts of America for the last four years, has been appointed Scout executive of the Crater Lake council at Medford, Oregon. "Bing" has been in charge of Scouting in the Oakland Stake M. I. A. Board and his labors have been of great value to the youths in this stake.

His wife, Louise Beesley, has served as secretary of the Young Ladies' Stake board.

The stake will keenly feel the loss of these fine young people, but The Messenger feels sure it speaks for all in congratulating them on their good fortune and recognition and wishing them continued success.

BASKETBALL

The unofficial standing of the competing wards in the Stake M-Men Basketball Tournament is as follows: Dimond is first, having won four and lost one; Elmhurst, second, having won three and lost two, Berkeley, third, having won two and lost three, and Oakland, fourth having won one and lost four.

The remaining games will see some keen rivalry for no ward has the championship "in the bag" until the final gun in the last game.

January 23—Oakland vs. Elmhurst
Berkeley vs. Dimond
January 30—Dimond vs. Oakland
Elmhurst vs. Berkeley
February 6—Oakland vs. Berkeley
Elmhurst vs. Dimond

All games are being played in the Emeryville High School Gym on San Pablo. The admission is 25c for adults and 10c for children.

BAPTISMS

DAUGHTER—Elaine Hughes of Alameda, January 4.
DAUGHTER — Dorothy Dunster of Dimond, January 4.
DAUGHTER—Nancy Jane Shurtliff of Dimond, January 4.

BIRTH

SON—To Mr. and Mrs. Newel Standley of Vallejo.

MARRIAGE

REDFIELD-SASSONE—Charlotte R. Redfield and Leo S. Sassone of Richmond, December 23.

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• • • AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES • • •

M. I. A.

A farewell party was given for Mr. and Mrs. Irven P. Beesley by the M. I. A. Stake Board, on Thursday evening, December 9.

A strikingly different party known as an "Evening on the Plains," was given under the direction of the M. I. A. Stake Adult Department. Elsie Johnson, Nate Tolman and Walt Eddington, composing the committee in charge, are to be congratulated on the success of their plans and efforts.

Nearly all came in costume, re-living the pioneer days on the plains. Brigham Young, Parley Pratt, Heber C. Kimball and their wives were represented in costume not to mention Chief Sitting Bull and his whole tribe. John Y. Smith gave a pioneer talk and Don C. Wood gave a reading. Very original stunts given by different wards gave spice to the evening. All who attended are certainly hoping for more parties of this quality and kind.

The campaign for subscriptions to the Improvement Era is still on. The following is the standing of the various wards:

	Quotas		Subscriptions
Alameda	13	Alameda	14
Dimond	32	Dimond	32
Oakland	41	Oakland	38
Elmhurst	39	Elmhurst	33
Berkeley	43	Berkeley	31
Richmond	16	Richmond	8

The M. I. A. Green and Gold Ball which is scheduled for February 21 is to be the scene of the beautiful Americana Waltz, the M. I. A. dance for the year. All wards are expected to enter couples to take part in the exhibition dances.

The Drama Festival will be in the form of a Revue in which all wards will present a ten minute number, representing the best talent in each ward. Activity leaders should be looking for the entertainment most suitable to the talents of their own groups. The date will be announced later.

Professor Clarence S. Boyle and wife, Dr. A. Rex Johnson and wife, Dr. Parley A. Christenson and wife, members of the faculty of Brigham Young University at Provo, Utah, have been visitors in the Bay region. Professors Boyle and Johnson attended the Pacific Economic convention at Mills College.

President Macdonald and his wife are spending a few weeks in Los Angeles in connection with his work. We wish him an enjoyable trip and hope to have him back with us soon.

PRIMARY

Because of illness Gladys Checketts has asked to be released from her Stake leadership of Group One. Her work has been appreciated and the organization wishes her a speedy recovery. Manis Baer of the Oakland Ward is welcomed as the new leader of this group.

The quarterly reports are now past due. If you haven't the reports from your ward in, please send them in as soon as possible.

Make your plans now for the May Festival for early plans mean a better production and each May Day should be a finer one than the previous one.

RELIEF SOCIETY

The Relief Society begins the New Year with a splendid course of study. It includes not only religious and cultural study but also community problems. It is in harmony with the great Adult Education movement which is being fostered throughout the world. The goal of all Latter-day Saint women should be to live efficient, effective, and satisfying lives. This means we believe in continuing to learn as long as we live. The happy life is the full life.

Membership cards are now being used for the first time. The yellow cards are supplied by the General Board and are given to members when they pay their dues.

Mrs. Gladys Harrison, Stake literary leader, is visiting her family in Utah.

STAKE CONFERENCE, JANUARY 25-26

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• • WARD NEWS • •

ALAMEDA

A successful ward bazaar was held in the Ward hall on December 10. Numerous articles made by the members of the ward were quickly sold. These consisted of sewing cabinets, magazine racks, various toys in woodwork, aprons, pillows and novelties.

The ward primary conference was held November 24. Ida Nelson of the Stake Board was in attendance. The children performed very pleasingly with song recitations and tableaus.

Elaine Hughes was baptized at the regular service, January 4.

Velma Rosalie Horman was blessed by Jos. S. Horman at Fast meeting, December 1.

Mrs. Anna Noorda and daughter of Salt Lake City are spending a few days with her other daughter, Mrs. Anna Horman.

Mrs. Blanche Crandall is recovering from a major operation in a San Francisco hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Foulger of Ogden spent the Christmas holidays with their son Bert Foulger and family.

RICHMOND

Allan Tidwell and his sister Margaret motored to Sacramento to spend New Year's Day. Their sister, Lileth, will return with them after a week spent with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude M. Dewsnup and children, Jack and Shirley spent the holidays in Sacramento visiting Mrs. Dewsnup's mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Nephi Thulin and their sons, Curtis and Willard spent a few days at Plymouth in an enjoyable visit with Mrs. Thulin's brother.

Leslie Tidwell is at the Martinez Hospital following a sudden illness which made an operation necessary. It is our sincere wish that he will make a speedy and satisfactory recovery.

Miss Ruth Zuppan of Ogden, Utah, is spending the holidays with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dietliker.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hopkins have enjoyed brief visits from relatives in December. One from his sister and brother-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Frank Williams of Fresno and one from her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sheridan of Soda Springs, Idaho.

Mr. and Mrs. Blaine K. Haddock and daughters, Marjean and Donna spent Christmas with Mrs. Haddock's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Johnson of Modesto.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bradeson accompanied by Mrs. Ruby Larson of Vallejo drove to Lake Almanor in Lassen County to visit their sister and brother, Pearl Hart and Jack Jenkins.

The Annual Xmas party held Tuesday evening, December 17 was enjoyed greatly by the large number present. A very entertaining program was furnished by children of the ward. After Santa had made his visit, the children joined in games. The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing.

Charlotte R. Redfield and Leo S. Sassone, both of Richmond, were married in Alameda County, December 23. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Redfield.

BERKELEY

Members of the Berkeley Deseret club motored to Richmond ward last Sunday evening, January 12, to furnish the sacramental program for the evening. After the opening number, which was sung by the club chorus, a spiritual reading, "King Robert of Sicily," by Longfellow was read by Eva Casto Pinkerton. Wells Jakeman, a graduate student in History and Anthropology at the University of California, was the speaker of the evening. La Vorn Thomas rendered a vocal solo. Closing remarks were given by George D. Casto.

An excursion to the Columbia Steel Mills in Pittsburgh, California, was enjoyed by members of the Berkeley Deseret Club, Tuesday evening, January 7. More than forty members attended. A social was held at the home of Miss Katherine Mayby following the tour through the plant.

Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Mitton of Logan have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lindblad.

Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Ruegge and family are moving to San Francisco soon.

Mrs. Anna Hafen has been entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willard D. Ellis.

DIMOND

One of the brilliant events of the past month was the marriage of Gladys Mitchell and Anton Olson, taking place in the Dimond Chapel, December 20. The bride was lovely in white satin with train and bridal veil, attended by Elsie Brown in orchid satin. Little Georgia Lauper made an adorable flower girl in her quaint little yellow gown reaching to the floor. Jay Brown acted as best man. The bride was given away by her father. Preceding the ceremony, appropriate selections were pleasingly rendered by Jean Lauper, accompanied by Nelle MacDonald at the pipe organ, with violin obbligato by Elisa Madsen. Bishop Serge Lauper officiated. Following the ceremony a delightful reception was held at the beautiful Cherrington home.

Mrs. Nellie Curtis has had as her guest during the holidays, her niece, Vera Harper, from Ogden.

Our sympathy is extended to Bishop Serge Lauper who was called to Ventura because of the death of his father.

Mrs. Rose Weiland entertained for the officers and teachers of the Primary at her home on the afternoon of December 20. The time was spent with games and music. Dainty refreshments were served and each guest was presented with a gift.

The Ward will be interested to know that work is now underway for the installing of the new heating plant for the recreation hall.

Mrs. Ruth Gealta is happy to have her mother, Mrs. Chester Nelson from Ogden, visiting with her.

Mrs. Jane Kilner has as her guests, her sister Mrs. John Hardy and son, Andrew from Salt Lake. They came to attend the wedding of George Earl Kilner and Adelgunda Busse, which took place January 5 in St. Matthews Church in San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Gibbs have just returned after spending three very pleasant weeks in Salt Lake City.

Dr. Mark and Rema Dalton have recently moved to San Francisco. For the past two years their work in the Mutual has been so outstanding, and they are such delightful people to know, that their moving will be a distinct loss to Dimond.

ELMHURST

We extend a hearty welcome to the following families who became members of our ward during the month of December: Mr. and Mrs. Howard B. Elliott from St. Anthony, Idaho; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Henderson from Clifton, Idaho; Mr. and Mrs. Franklin D. Webb from Eugene, Oregon; and Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Chadwick from Dimond.

Inez McFarlane entertained her primary officers and workers in her home Thursday, December 19. Musical games and social chats formed the entertainment for the afternoon after which a luncheon was served.

The Primary gave a Christmas party patterned after the old style of entertainment, accounting for its success.

Under the direction of Sup't Albert H. Elmer, gave a well-done Christmas program, occupying the entire period. The ward congratulates the superintendency on their success.

Susie B. Storey is now in the Fairmont Hospital as the result of a bad fall, causing an injury to her hip.

Bishop and Mrs. McFarlane and family vacationed in Ogden during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Paine and family also vacationed in Ogden with the "folks at home."

VALLEJO

A new addition was made to the Vallejo cradle roll, with the birth of a baby son, born to Mr. and Mrs. Newel Standley.

Vallejo branch enjoyed a delightful Christmas program and dance, December 17, at which time Santa Claus appeared and distributed candy to the children. Members of the Beehive, Junior, and Vanguard classes presented a beautiful pageant, "The Nativity."

E. J. Partington spent Sunday, December 22 in Vallejo visiting friends, and was the evening speaker at the sacrament services.

The Vallejo genealogical class gave a Christmas tree party Monday evening, December 23, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin G. Cheshire. Games were played, and josh gifts were distributed, and later in the evening refreshments were served. Those present included: Branch President J. M. Telford, Mr. and Mrs. A. Dairl Hill, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Haitt, Katheryn Christensen, Muriel Smith, Selma Kimpton, Parley Merrill, Elmer Lathrop, Wells Shurtleff, Helen Ann Cheshire, and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin G. Cheshire.

The Junior girls gave a party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Neerings, Friday evening December 27. Games and dancing were enjoyed, and refreshments were served later in the evening, with Mrs. Wilma Emily Gilbert assisting the hostess. Informal invitations were sent out to members of the Vanguard class by the girls.

King E. Beagley returned from a trip to San Diego where he spent Christmas with his daughter and son-in-law.

The Vallejo genealogical class had charge of the services Sunday evening, December 29, presenting a pageant, "The Growth and Purpose of Genealogical Work." Arthur B. Case was the speaker for the evening.